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July 20, 1900

1862

No farther case has as yet occurred in connection with that upon the steamship *Rosetta* in the harbor of Yokohama, already reported to you.

The fact that the number and frequency of cases of pest are diminishing shows, I think, that the native sanitary officials are making a successful fight against the epidemic.

Respectfully,

STUART ELDRIDGE,

Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Concerning supposed second bacillus of plague.

YOKOHAMA, JAPAN, June 19, 1900.

SIR: Referring to your letter of May 9 (L. W. R. & M. J. R.) inclosing a translation from some German newspaper with regard to a supposed discovery by Professor Kitasato of a second bacillus of the plague, and requesting me to investigate the authenticity of the report, I have the honor to quote the following letter from Professor Kitasato in answer to my inquiries on the subject:

TOKYO, June 16, 1900.

SIR: In the septicæmia of plague we often find a bacillus which is very like to fowl cholera bacillus, in the bubo, the blood, and internal organs.

This bacillus is a quite different kind from the bacillus of Yersin and is not the real cause of plague. But it is thought that in the septicæmia this bacillus is about no less an agency.

Therefore it might be better named as a septicæmia bacillus. The German newspapers perhaps would be recording about the above bacillus.

If you want culture of this bacillus I will send it to you.

Respectfully,

S. KITASATO.

I will later send you cultures of the bacillus to which Dr. Kitasato refers.

Respectfully,

STUART ELDRIDGE,

Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

MEXICO.

Reports from Vera Cruz—Yellow-fever epidemic—Completely equipped disinfecting plant established by the Mexican authorities.

VERA CRUZ, MEXICO, July 1, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report for the week ended June 30:

Cases of yellow fever, 12; deaths, 4; cases of smallpox, 8; deaths, 2; deaths from all causes, 38. Six deaths were reported from pernicious and 5 from remittent fever.

During the week yellow fever was declared epidemic, and that article of the quarantine regulations that requires all baggage from this port to be disinfected has been enforced. Baggage from the noninfected localities will be inspected and labeled with the same label as that which has been disinfected. I have notified Havana and New York of this regulation, and forwarded them copies of the certificate of disinfection and also of the labels. I inclose you a copy of both.

I am convinced that the disinfection will be efficient and the inspection thorough, for one of the employees of the station is now serving a